

1 What is claimed is:

2

3

1. A dishwasher comprising:

4

a cabinet having an open front side;

5

a door opening/closing the front side of the cabinet;

6

a locker at the door;

7

a coupling member inside the cabinet to be elastically coupled to or separated from

8

the locker in opening/closing the door; and

9

a switch in rear of the coupling member to sense opening/closing of the door.

10

2. The dishwasher as claimed in claim 1, wherein the coupling member comprises at least one plate spring.

11

3. The dishwasher as claimed in claim 1, wherein the coupling member comprises first and second coupling members to be brought contact with both sides of the locker, respectively.

14

15 4. The dishwasher as claimed in claim 3, wherein two pairs of fixing
16 protrusions are formed inside the cabinet and wherein both ends of the first and second
17 coupling members are hooked to be coupled to the fixing protrusions, respectively.

18

5. The dishwasher as claimed in claim 4, wherein guides are provided to circumferences of both of the ends of the first and second coupling members to prevent the first and second coupling members from being separated from the fixing protrusions,

respectively.

6. The dishwasher as claimed in claim 3, wherein a pair of incline coupling pieces are provided to both of the sides of the locker, respectively and wherein a pair of protrusions brought elastic contact with the coupling pieces are formed at centers of the first and second coupling members, respectively.

7. The dishwasher as claimed in claim 6, wherein a front end of each of the coupling pieces inclines slower than a rear end thereof.

8. The dishwasher as claimed in claim 1, wherein fixing protrusions are formed inside the cabinet and both ends of the coupling member are hooked to be coupled to the fixing protrusions, respectively.

9. The dishwasher as claimed in claim 8, wherein guides are provided to circumferences of the both ends of the coupling member to prevent the coupling member from being separated from the fixing protrusions, respectively.

10. The dishwasher as claimed in claim 1, wherein an incline coupling piece is provided to one side of the locker and wherein a protrusion brought elastic contact with the coupling piece is formed at a center of the coupling member.

11. The dishwasher as claimed in claim 10, wherein a front end of the coupling piece to be brought sliding contact with the coupling member inclines slower than a rear end

of the coupling piece to be caught on the protrusion of the coupling member.

19

12. The dishwasher as claimed in claim 1, the switch assembly comprising:
a micro switch sensing the opening/closing of the door to control an operation of the
dishwasher; and
a button at one side of the micro switch to transfer operation information of the door
to the micro switch.

13. The dishwasher as claimed in claim 12, wherein the button is directly
brought contact with the locker when the door is closed.

20 14. A door lock assembly of a dishwasher, comprising:
21 a locker at a door opening/closing a front side of a cabinet;
22 a coupling member inside the cabinet to be elastically coupled to or separated from
23 the locker in opening/closing the door; and
24 a switch in rear of the coupling member to sense opening/closing of the door.

15. The door lock assembly as claimed in claim 14, wherein the coupling
member comprises at least one plate spring.

25 16. The door lock assembly as claimed in claim 14, wherein the coupling
26 member comprises first and second coupling members to be brought contact with both sides
27 of the locker, respectively.

28

29 17. The door lock assembly as claimed in claim 14, wherein two pairs of fixing
30 protrusions are formed inside the cabinet and wherein both ends of the first and second
31 coupling members are hooked to be coupled to the fixing protrusions, respectively.

18. The door lock assembly as claimed in claim 16, wherein a pair of incline coupling pieces are provided to the both sides of the locker, respectively and wherein a pair of protrusions brought elastic contact with the coupling pieces are formed at centers of the first and second coupling members, respectively.

19. The door lock assembly as claimed in claim 14, the switch assembly comprising:

a micro switch sensing the opening/closing of the door to control an operation of the dishwasher; and

a button at one side of the micro switch to transfer operation information of the door to the micro switch.

20. The door lock assembly as claimed in claim 19, wherein the button is directly brought contact with the locker when the door is closed.